

CITY OF ALAMEDA

Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

From: Lisa Goldman
Acting City Manager

Date: May 3, 2011

Re: Adopt a Resolution Authorizing the Acting City Manager to Submit an
Application for Measure B Paratransit Funding in the Amount of \$210,625 for
FY11-12, and to Execute all Necessary Documents

BACKGROUND

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires transit agencies to offer equivalent paratransit service for persons certified as unable to drive or take public transit. Paratransit services must be made available to eligible users within 3/4 mile of the existing fixed transit routes during normal operating hours. In Alameda, the mandated paratransit service is provided by East Bay Paratransit (EBP).

Measure B, the Alameda County half-cent sales tax for transportation, provides a dedicated funding source for non-mandated, locally-based paratransit services for people with disabilities and non-disabled seniors. To receive the Measure B paratransit funds, the Alameda County Transportation Commission (CTC), which administers Measure B funds, requires each jurisdiction to annually submit a resolution applying for these funds.

DISCUSSION

The FY11-12 Alameda CTC paratransit funding application for \$210,625 continues the paratransit program approved by the City Council at its March 15, 2011 meeting. The program, which was developed with input from the Commission on Disability Issues, the Recreation and Parks Commission, the Transportation Commission, the Social Services Human Relations Board, key stakeholders, and program participants, includes the following services:

Alameda Paratransit Shuttle (\$82,500): The Alameda Paratransit Shuttle, which began operations in April 2010, provides a fixed route service, three days a week, for seven hours per day. The service is available to all EBP-eligible Alameda residents and to residents 55 years of age or older, regardless of disability status. There currently is no charge for this service. The shuttle travels to key destinations in Alameda, including Mastick Senior Center, Alameda Towne Centre, the Park and Webster Street business districts, Bridgeside Shopping Center, and Alameda Hospital.

Medical Return Trip Improvement Program - MRTIP (\$40,000): MRTIP provides free taxi trips to EBP-certified riders when returning home from medical appointments in Alameda County using the City of Alameda's transportation providers. MRTIP eliminates the uncertainty of coordinating return medical trips with EBP. Since EBP requires reservations a day in advance, the return trips of medical appointments are not well served by EBP, and the City's program increases the convenience for EBP-certified residents. Eligible residents are allowed to obtain in advance up to five MRTIP travel vouchers per month. MRTIP travel vouchers expire after one year of issuance.

Premium Taxi Service (\$10,000): The Premium Taxi Service provides eligible residents a 50 percent discount on taxi rides with the City's transportation providers. This service is available to residents who are: EBP-certified, 75 years of age or older, or 70 years of age or older and do not possess a driver's license. Discount travel vouchers are valued at \$5.00 and must be purchased in advance at a cost of \$2.50. Individuals are limited to a maximum of ten travel vouchers per quarter and multiple travel vouchers may be used per trip. Premium Taxi Service travel vouchers expire after one year of issuance.

Group Trips (\$10,000): This program provides financial assistance toward transportation expenses for the Mastick Senior Center monthly trip program and Cultural Events class. Travel destinations may include various Bay Area locations (i.e. San Francisco, Livermore, etc.). The Group Trip program provides a van to pick up and return members of the Alameda Recreation and Park Department Leisure Club, which is a social recreation program offered twice a month for young adults, 18 years or older, with special needs. The Group Trip program also subsidizes a portion of the transportation expense to/from Crown Memorial Beach for the Annual Nursing Home Picnic.

Scholarship Program (\$1,000): This program is for "very low income" disabled households, as defined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, and provides certified EBP users with up to two free EBP ticket books each year with the purchase of two ticket books at the regular price.

Program Management (\$27,410): This amount funds the Public Works Department staff time to complete the Alameda CTC application and reporting requirements, review program data and invoices, participate in Alameda CTC's paratransit committees, renew or establish new contracts, conduct outreach meetings, and coordinate with the transportation providers and Mastick Senior Center staff.

Customer Service and Outreach (\$39,715): This amount funds a part-time staff at the Mastick Senior Center who is responsible for customer service and public outreach. This amount also funds implementation of the City's marketing program, including printing program brochures and schedules, coordinating advertisements, and producing informational mailings.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The Transportation Services - Paratransit Program (Fund 287-4225287), as outlined above, totals \$210,625. The program will be funded from an Alameda CTC Measure B funding allocation (\$145,742), fares from Premium Taxi Service travel vouchers and group trip ticket revenues (\$8,750), fund balance interest (\$850) and fund balance (\$55,283). An available Paratransit fund balance of \$32,577 will remain. There is no impact to the General Fund.

MUNICIPAL CODE/POLICY DOCUMENT CROSS REFERENCE

This action does not affect the Alameda Municipal Code. The City's Paratransit Program supports the General Plan Objective 4.1.5 "Consider the transportation needs of the community, including those with limited mobility options", and the General Plan Policy 4.1.5.b: "Continue to support the Paratransit program."

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), this project is Statutory Exempt under CEQA Guidelines, Section 15723. Rates, Tolls, Fares, and Charges with the findings that:

1. Changes are necessary to encourage ridership within the service area.
2. Changes are necessary to provide an equitable distribution of services.
3. Changes are necessary for capital programming and capital costs necessary to maintain service within the service area.

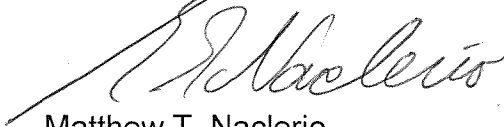
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RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution authorizing the Acting City Manager to submit an application for Measure B Paratransit funding in the amount of \$210,625 for FY11-12, and to execute all necessary documents.

Respectfully submitted,



Matthew T. Naclerio
Public Works Director

By,



Gail Payne
Transportation Coordinator

Approved as to funds and account,



Fred Marsh
Controller

cc: Measure B Watchdog Committee

CITY OF ALAMEDA RESOLUTION NO. _____

AUTHORIZING THE ACTING CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR MEASURE B PARATRANSIT FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$210,625 FOR FY11-12, AND TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS

Approved as to Form

City Attorney

WHEREAS, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires that equivalent paratransit service be provided within 3/4 mile and during the regular operating hours of fixed route transit services for those who are determined to be eligible for such services; and

WHEREAS, Alameda residents who are seniors or who have disabilities have transportation needs that are not always met by the existing fixed route transit services; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alameda receives an allocation from Measure B sales tax revenue, administered by the Alameda County Transportation Commission (CTC), to provide paratransit services for seniors and people with disabilities to supplement ADA-mandated services; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alameda's Paratransit Program budget for FY11-12 requires \$210,625 in Measure B Paratransit funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alameda plans to submit a grant application to Alameda CTC for funds from the Measure B Paratransit funding for the following project:

The Alameda Paratransit Shuttle provides fixed route service for eligible users, free of charge, to destinations in Alameda three days a week. The Medical Return Trip Improvement Program provides free taxi service to East Bay Paratransit-certified residents to return home from medical appointments. The Premium Taxi Service provides taxi services, not limited to medical trips, at 50 percent discount for eligible residents. Scholarships and group trips also are offered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Alameda City Council that the Acting City Manager is authorized to submit an application for Measure B Paratransit funds for FY11-12 in the amount of \$210,625; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Acting City Manager is authorized to execute all necessary documents to implement the project.

* * * * *

Resolution #5-J CC
05-03-11

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly adopted and passed by the Council of the City of Alameda in a regular meeting assembled on the 3rd day of May, 2011, by the following vote to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSECTIONS:

IN WITNESS, WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of said City this 4th day of May 2011.

Lara Weisiger, City Clerk
City of Alameda